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Ben Ames Williams in the Saturday Evening Post

Richard Cary
BEN AMES WILLIAMS IN THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

By Richard Cary

Between April 14, 1917 and February 8, 1941 Ben Ames Williams published 179 titles in the Saturday Evening Post. Of these, 135 are short stories, 35 serials, 7 articles, one his edition of Bert McCorrison's letters in six installments, and one an autobiographical sketch solicited by the editors in response to his rising popularity.

Twelve of the serials were converted into book form: The Great Accident, 1920, by Macmillan Company; the other eleven—Eved, 1921; Audacity, 1924; The Rational Hind, 1925; The Silver Forest, 1926; Immortal Longings, 1927; The Dreadful Night, 1928; Death on Scurvy Street, 1929; Pirate's Purchase, 1931; Money Musk, 1932; Pascal's Mill, 1933; Mischief, 1933—by E. P. Dutton & Company.

Three of the short stories are collected in Williams' Thrifty Stock and Other Stories, 1923 (E. P. Dutton), and twelve in his Fraternity Village, 1949 (Houghton Mifflin Company). Others, too numerous to list here, have been embraced by anthologists ranging from the O. Henry Award annual volumes to academic textbooks (notably "They Grind Exceeding Small" in at least ten instances). ¹

Short stories originally appearing in the Post are reprinted in Blue Magazine, Current Opinion, Pan, The Story-Teller, Cassell's Magazine, the Amalgamated Press, Passing Show, All-Story Braille Magazine; have been translated for a French periodical and a syndicate of South American newspapers; condensed for The Thinker's Digest.² There seems no advantage to include full particulars in this listing.

Because of the Post's practice of carrying stories over into multiple, discontinuous pages at the rear of the magazine, only the first page of each entry is cited.

² For a checklist of Williams' publications in other magazines and in newspapers, see Richard Cary, "Ben Ames Williams in Periodicals and Newspapers," Colby Library Quarterly, IX (September 1972), 599-615.
1917

"The Mate of the Susie Oakes," CLXXXIX (April 14), 71.

1919

"The Ninth Part of a Hair," CXCI (June 7), 18.
"Jubilo," CXCI (June 28), 3; CXCII (July 5), 24; (July 12),
24.
"Gam," CXCHII (August 16), 5.
"They Grind Exceeding Small," CXCII (September 13), 46.
"The Great Accident," CXCII (September 27), 3; (October
4), 26; (October 11), 22; (October 18), 26; (October
25), 24; (November 1), 26; (November 8), 26; (No­
vember 15), 26.

1920

"Toujours de l'Audace," CXCII (January 3), 5; (January 10),
24; (January 17), 22.
"Evered," CXCII (February 21), 3; (February 28), 22;
(March 6), 24.
"Old Tantrybogus," CXCII (March 6), 8.

1921

"Miching Mallecho," CXCIII (April 9), 3; (April 16), 18;
(April 23), 18; (April 30), 18.

1922

"One Crowded Hour," CXCIV (May 6), 5.
"A Use for Clods," CXCIV (June 24), 14.
"The Ax," CXCV (October 14), 8.
"The Road of Casualty," CXCV (November 11), 8; (Novem­
ber 18), 16.

1923

"Pascal's Mill," CXCV (January 6), 3; (January 13), 18;
(January 20), 20; (January 27), 20.
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“The Piano,” CXCV (March 10), 8.
“Hip and Thigh,” CXCV (March 31), 5.
“A Threefold Cord,” CXCV (May 19), 10.
“Fair and Softly,” CXCV (June 16), 3; (June 23), 24.
“The Bride’s Light,” CXCVI (August 4), 5; (August 11), 18.
“Fox Bog,” CXCVI (September 1), 8.
“Strain at a Gnat,” CXCVI (December 22), 6.

1924

“Ruin,” CXCVI (February 9), 3; (February 16), 24; (February 23), 22.
“Partridge,” CXCVI (March 15), 3; (March 22), 24.
“The Rational Hind,” CXCVI (March 29), 5; (April 5), 34; (April 12), 28; (April 19), 26.
“The Keeper at Karn,” CXCVI (June 7), 12.
“Horse Sense,” CXCVI (June 14), 5.
“The Silver Forest,” CXCVII (July 19), 3; (July 26), 26; (August 2), 26; (August 9), 28.
“Valor,” CXCVII (August 30), 5.
“Big Boy,” CXCVII (September 6), 15.
“Northeaster,” CXCVII (September 20), 5.
“Thunderstroke,” CXCVII (October 4), 5.
“The Missing Attribute,” CXCVII (October 18), 8.
“Ben Ames Williams,” CXCVII (October 18), 54.
“The Pines,” CXCVII (November 1), 10; (November 8), 26.
“Free Camping,” CXCVII (November 15), 10.
“Foreheads Villainous,” CXCVII (December 13), 12.
“The Ancient Landmark,” CXCVII (December 27), 3.

1925

“The Abandoned Farm,” CXCVII (February 14), 18.
“The Palsied Eld,” CXCVII (February 21), 20.
“The Accident,” CXCVII (March 28), 12.
“The Silver Sword,” CXCVII (May 30), 3; (June 6), 36.
“The Excellent Clerk,” CXCVIII (October 10), 24.
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“A Man of Plots,” CXCVIII (October 17), 3; (October 24), 26; (October 31), 26; (November 7), 44; (November 14), 42.
“Scapegoat,” CXCVIII (November 7), 10.
“A Very Practical Joke,” CXCVIII (December 5), 36.
“Sir Oracle,” CXCVIII (December 12), 8.
“Stave Stuff,” CXCVIII (December 19), 8.

1926

“Nerves,” CXCVIII (January 2), 8.
“No Thoroughfare,” CXCVIII (January 30), 3; (February 6), 28; (February 13), 30; (February 20), 32; (February 27), 28.
“Up Rose Emily,” CXCVIII (March 20), 8; (March 27), 40.
“The Blunderer,” CXCVIII (May 8), 6; (May 15), 30.
“The Dreadful Night,” CXCVIII (May 22), 3; (May 29), 30; (June 5), 32; (June 12), 34; (June 19), 30.
“Immortal Longings,” CXCIX (July 17), 3; (July 24), 28; (July 31), 26; (August 7), 30.
“The Fine Point,” CXCIX (September 4), 5; (September 11), 34; (September 18), 40.
“A Wayward Mouth,” CXCIX (September 25), 5.
“Coconuts,” CXCIX (October 9), 10.
“Skins,” CXCIX (October 23), 22.
“The Eftest Way,” CXCIX (November 6), 24.
“The Bad End,” CXCIX (November 27), 14.
“Aside After Lucre,” CXCIX (December 4), 14.
“The State Kid,” CXCIX (December 18), 12.

1927

“Opportunity,” CXCIX (January 8), 28.
“Altitude,” CXCIX (January 15), 10.
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"The Lip of Truth," CXCIX (February 19), 20.
"This Way, That Way," CXCIX (March 19), 3; (March 26), 32.
"Letters From Fraternity" [by A. L. McCorrison, edited by BAW], CXCIX (April 16), 44; (April 30), 40; (May 7), 66; (June 25), 54; CC (July 23), 161; (August 20), 102.
"Innocent Delusions," CXCIX (May 14), 6.
"A Net of Circumstances," CXCIX (May 28), 3; (June 4), 40.
"The Prodigal's Brother," CXCIX (June 18), 18.
"A Case in Point," CC (July 30), 20.
"A Scepter of Equity," CC (September 3), 6.
"As a Man Speaketh," CC (September 17), 30.
"Detour," CC (October 8), 12.
"The Uses of Inquiry," CC (October 22), 3; (October 29), 20; (November 5), 38.

1928

"The Glory of Kings," CC (January 14), 3; (January 21), 18; (January 28), 20; (February 4), 28; (February 11), 28.
"The Good Girl," CC (February 18), 10.
"Heeby Jeeby," CC (March 17), 18.
"General Delivery," CC (March 31), 12.
"The Premeditated Prodigal," CC (June 23), 35.
"Catchwords," CCI (September 1), 10.
"The Rich Man's City," CCI (September 29), 20.
"A Son of Anak," CCI (October 13), 3; (October 20), 28; (October 27), 32; (November 3), 30; (November 10), 36.
"Perennial," CCI (December 8), 14.
“Merrymeeting,” CCI (January 12), 28.
“Death on Scurvy Street,” CCI (February 16), 5; February 23), 20; (March 2), 22; (March 9), 34; (March 16), 33.
“The Highroad,” CCI (March 30), 6; (April 6), 34.
“Cinderella by Request,” CCI (April 13), 10.
“Eavesdrop,” CCI (April 27), 140.
“The Throwback,” CCI (June 22), 10.
“Preferred Lies,” CCII (August 3), 12.
“The Wild Ones,” CCII (August 17), 56.
“The Happy House,” CCII (September 14), 30.
“Touch,” CCII (November 9), 20.
“The Death Apple,” CCII (December 14), 18.

“Immune,” CCII (January 11), 49.
“Man Afraid,” CCII (April 26), 8.
“The Hermit of Three Buttes,” CCII (May 10), 3; (May 17), 26; (May 24), 26; (May 31), 28; (June 7), 32.
“Lets and Hindrances,” CCII (June 14), 10.
“The Wild Calf,” CCIII (July 19), 41.
“The Lie With Circumstance,” CCIII (August 2), 35.
“Guesswork,” CCIII (August 30), 12.
“Salmon,” CCIII (September 27), 18.
“The Fog Blew Over the Mountain,” CCIII (December 6), 16.
“Make-Believe,” CCIII (December 27), 3; (January 3, 1931), 20; (January 10), 20; (January 17), 24; (January 24), 24.

“Dole,” CCIII (March 28), 16.
“Cash in Hand,” CCIII (May 2), 18.
“Witch-Trot Pond,” CCIII (June 6), 14.
“Isaiah,” CCIII (June 13), 16.
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"The Duncest Man," CCIV (July 18), 10.
"The Shape of Fear," CCIV (August 22), 8.
"Jephthah's Daughter," CCIV (October 24), 3; (October 31), 18; (November 7), 20.
"Good Form," CCIV (December 5), 6.

1932

"Such Things Never Happen," CCIV (February 27), 10.
"Money Musk," CCIV (March 19), 3; (March 26), 20; (April 2), 18; (April 9), 31; (April 16), 26; (April 23), 26.
"The Sedative," CCV (November 19), 18.
"Whenas In Silks," CCV (December 31), 10.

1933

"What Color Is That?" CCV (January 28), 14.
"Pen in Hand," CCV (February 4), 12.
"The Legs of the Lame," CCV (March 25), 16.
"Help! I'm Drowning!" CCV (April 1), 15.
"Chet McAusland of Fraternity," CCV (May 13), 5.
"Plowshares," CCV (June 17), 12.
"Wampee," CCVI (July 1), 8.
"Adventure's End," CCVI (August 5), 5; (August 12), 21; (August 19), 20.
"Outsize," CCVI (September 2), 13.

1934

"Balance All," CCVI (February 24), 14.
"A Bit of Gallantry," CCVI (June 9), 18.
"By the Grace of Ching Ling Foo," CCVII (August 11), 14.
"Mad Dog," CCVII (November 17), 8.

1935

"The Sunrise Side," CCVII (February 2), 14.
"The Old Men's Pool," CCVII (March 16), 16.
"The Idolater," CCVII (May 11), 42.
"Skyrocket," CCVII (May 18), 22.
"Mossback," CCVIII (August 10), 16.
"His Public," CCVIII (October 26), 14.

1936

"The Assistant," CCVIII (March 14), 16.
"Three Spectacles," CCVIII (May 23), 22.
"The Outsider," CCIX (July 11), 14.
"Fiddling Fool," CCIX (September 12), 16.
"The Old-Goose Question," CCIX (October 17), 22.

1937

"The High Heart," CCX (December 25), 18.

1938

"Dan'l Come to Judgment," CCX (April 9), 10.
"Comeuppance," CCX (June 18), 22.
"Lazybones," CCXI (July 23), 8.
"Nutmeg Burley," CCXI (November 12), 14.

1939

"Good Riddance," CCXI (January 14), 14.
"Day of Rest," CCXI (April 29), 18.
"Times Have Changed," CCXII (August 26), 12.

1940

"My Grandmother's Leg," CCXII (February 24), 9; (March 2), 30.

1941

"Road Discontinued," CCXIII (February 8), 20.